

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11609

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, TGEN
SUBJECT: MEETING OF EXPERTS ON CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM:
MALTESE INQUIRY RE VALLETTA MEETING

1. MALTESE REP TO CSCE EXPERTS MEETING TO PREPARE
SCIENTIFIC FORUM APPROACHED U.S. DEL JUNE 22 WITH
FOLLOWING INFORMAL NOTE:

QUOTE:

AIDE MEMOIR

AS PART OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BELGRADE CON-
FERENCE, A MEETING WILL BE CONVENED IN MALTA STARTING
ON 13 FEBRUARY 1979. ITS MANDATE WILL BE TO CONSIDER
THE POSSIBILITIES AND MEANS OF PROMOTING CONCRETE
INITIATIVE FOR MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION CONCERN-
ING VARIOUS ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL FIELDS,
IN ADDITION TO OTHER INITIATIVES RELATING TO THE ABOVE
SUBJECTS ALREADY UNDER WAY. THE NON-PARTICIPATING
MEDITERRANEAN STATES WILL BE INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE TO
THE WORK OF THIS MEETING. THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA IS
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DEEPLY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING CO-OPERATIVE
MEDITERRANEAN PROJECTS IN

- 1) FISHERIES
- 2) REAL EXCHANGE OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMA-
TION

UNQUOTE.

2. MALTESE REP AFFIRMED THAT "COOPERATIVE MEDITERRANEAN PROJECTS" REFERRED TO TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER "SCIENCE" AT VALLETTA MEETING, BUT DID NOT PRECLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT MALTESE MAY SEEK TO INITIATE ON-GOING PROJECTS OUTSIDE EXPERTS MEETING. HE ALSO STRESSED HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PASS NOTE TO MED DELS ONLY BUT INCLUDED UK AND US REPS DUE TO IMPORTANT ROLE THESE STATES PLAY IN AREA. COMMENT: LIKELY THIS ACTION REFLECTS PERSONAL RATHER THAN OFFICIAL MALTESE VIEW. END COMMENT. MALTESE REP (BANNISTER) IS SCIENTIST AND PROFESSOR, RECENTLY SELECTED TO ACT FOR GOM AT BONN MEETING AND ON SCIENTIFIC PORTION OF VALLETTA MEETING. HE HAS NO EXPERIENCE IN DIPLOMACY AND RECEIVED LITTLE BRIEFING ON CSCE PRIOR TO BONN GATHERING.

3. IN PRELIMINARY COMMENT, U.S. DEL NOTED FIRST TOPIC CONTAINED CONTROVERSIAL ELEMENTS, WHILE SECOND WAS AMBIGUOUS. MALTESE REP EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOVERNMENTS CONSULTED COULD SUGGEST ASPECTS OF PROPOSED TOPICS THAT MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE FOR VALLETTA DISCUSSION. AFTER CONSULTATIONS, GOM PLANS TO MAKE FORMAL PROPOSAL BEFORE VALLETTA.

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4. IN THE EVENT, DEPARTMENT HAS PERTINENT SUGGESTIONS, US DEL BELIEVES IT USEFUL TO RECOMMEND THESE MALTESE REP. HE HAS REQUESTED THAT US DEL RELAY SUCH TO HIM IN BONN.
STOESSEL

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